

The New Nation

Edward Bellamy—Editor

THE INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM OF A NATION, AS WELL AS ITS POLITICAL SYSTEM, OUGHT TO BE A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE.

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ECONOMIC EQUALITY.

The exercise of irresponsible power, by whatever means, is tyranny, and should not be tolerated. The power which men irresponsibly exercise for their private ends, over individuals and communities, through superior wealth, is essentially tyrannous, and as inconsistent with democratic principle and as offensive to self-respecting men as any form of political tyranny that was ever endured. As political equality is the remedy for political tyranny, so is economic equality the only way of putting an end to the economic tyranny exercised by the few over the many through superiority of wealth. The industrial system of a nation, like its political system, should be a government of the people, by the people, for the people. Until economic equality shall give a basis to political equality, the latter is but a sham.

The populists did a good day's work at Lynn on Wednesday. The convention cut out lines of reform that will smash the monopolies of this country sooner or later. The time has come, as the platform says, to take the nation's money completely out of the realm of private speculation, and also to monopolize private monopolies in the public interest. The people's party is growing because its demands are for all and not for some at the expense of others.

The most interesting part of the Electrical Congress proceedings at Chicago was the discussion on the transmission of power from Niagara Falls by means of electric cables. The wires will be carried partly on poles and partly in subways. The aim is ultimately to supply power not only to factories in the vicinity of the falls, but to Buffalo, Roches-

ter, Utica, Syracuse and Albany. It perhaps also to supply power to propel the boats on the Erie and other canals in New York state. Fancy the play of such tremendous power in the hands of speculators. It is a stark madness to permit private capitalists to exploit the motive power that may run a thousand mills.

The Solution and the Only One of the Unemployed Problem.

If the present depression of business continues, the burning issue of the coming fall and winter is going to be the question of the duty of the state to provide employment for the unemployed. While, as humane persons, nationalists must deplore the occasion of this discussion, they cannot fail to recognize the unequalled opportunity it affords for urging the practical application of the nationalist idea of the public organization of industry. In the editorials on this question of publicly providing work for the unemployed which appear in the columns of the daily press, the position is generally if not invariably taken that the state can properly do nothing about it. The gist of the argument used by these papers is summed up in the maxim, "The citizens must support the state, not the state the citizens." But nobody is asking the state to support the citizens. The demand is that the state shall so organize industrial works as to enable the citizens, left in the lurch by the break-down of private initiative, to support themselves. The recognized function of the state is just this business of organizing and directing those interests of the people, to which private initiative is not equal, as for example, the public defense, the administration of justice and protection of persons and property, the roads, etc., etc. All these are functions once left to private initiative and taken in charge by the state because private initiative broke down. The present crisis is the result of such a break down of private initiative in industry. Always out of order, the machine has now come to a stop. Nothing then could be more in keeping with an historical view of the state's functions than that it should now step in and relieve the crisis by a public organization of industry which should, at least, supplement

the defects of the present system, pending its complete substitution for it.

But, say the objectors, the state cannot go on indefinitely paying its citizens out of the taxes to build public works which are not needed. Of course not. Who wants it to? A good idea may be carried out in such a bad way as to condemn it, and that is the way the provision for the employment of the unemployed has been generally carried out by the state. We should not favor public works, except in a temporary emergency, as a means of employing labor by the state, unless such works were timely and necessary.

The beginning of wisdom in adopting a sound method of providing employment for the unemployed is to recognize that the necessity of such a provision is not temporary, but permanent. The unemployed in vast numbers are always with us and any adequate system of providing them work should therefore be by a fixed establishment always in existence. Another first principle of any sound method of providing employment by the state, is that the employed should be so put to work as to support one another by consuming one another's product, the system being altogether separate from the outside business system, and costing the state nothing.

How should we go to work to establish such a system? Well something this way. Let the state establish, say, shoe shops, garment shops, bakeries, knitting shops, hat shops, furniture factories, cotton and woollen mills and other manufacturing establishments, providing the main necessities of life. Let it also start farms and stock farms. It would not be needful that these establishments should be concentrated except in control. They could be in various parts of the state. In connection with each manufactory or farm there would be a public store, stocked with the products of the public factories and farms. Of course, until the system had gotten under way, many articles for the store would have to be bought in the market, and some foreign products always, but it would be the idea to stock the stores with trifling exceptions with products of the public shops and farms. In the vicinity of every public factory or farm, would be erected by the labor of the unemployed, dwellings adequate to the needs of the workers.

The state would then undertake to receive, to the extent of the force necessary, able-bodied adults having trades or occupations fitting them for the respective branches of business undertaken.

To all such workers the state would guarantee at least a maintenance, with as much more as the result of their joint work came to, the whole of it above expense being shared among them, whether more or less. This would not be a system of charity in any sense; it being the assumption that able-bodied persons provided with proper tools can always produce far more than they need to consume provided the question of the marketing of the goods can be solved. This problem would be solved in the only way possible, by the proposed method.

The plan of sharing the product among the workers would be as follows: All the workers, men and women, would receive in a sort of scrip, only receivable at the public stores and for rent of the public dwellings, a credit equal at first to the minimum provision necessary to secure a sufficient maintenance. As the size and efficiency of the system in-

creased, the sum would be increased. The shares for all workers would be the same. As to choice of work, they would be provided for first according to previous trades so far as possible, the best workers being taken before the poorer. Those not provided for at trades must be ready to take any work assigned or leave, and this indeed would be required of all, whenever production in excess in any department should make a transfer of workers desirable to avoid relative over-production. Nobody, of course, is to be allowed to be unemployed on any terms, for it is to remedy non-employment that the system is established. It should be, of course, understood that the public employees would be in no sense "wards of the state," or subject to any different rules or discipline out of work hours from those affecting other citizens.

Of course the state would have to invest the money necessary to start the manufacturing plants, farms and so forth, but as surely as workmen working for employees are now able to pay their own wages and great profits besides, despite all the wastes of competition, such a co-operative method of production as has been outlined, would soon pay back to the state all its outlay.

But could the state receive in payment the scrip used only within the system? It would not be necessary. The public industrial system could serve the state in many ways. It could provide the goods and food used by the state institutions. It could take the entire charge of providing from its farms the food and clothing for the state and local poor. It could also sell in the market many sorts of produce not in competition with wage-earners' products.

Moreover, whenever there was a business, like sugar refining, the rubber trade and many others, which had been captured by a monopoly, it would be public policy for the state managed industries to go into such businesses and fight the trusts, by furnishing cheaper goods to the public. By profits made in these and many other ways, the public industrial system would be able to repay its debt to the state and buy all it needed of the outside world in ordinary money.

While at first the maintenance afforded by the state system would not be enough to attract but any unemployed workers, it would, as the system developed and got into working order, be likely to mount rapidly to a point far above the rate of living enjoyed by any private employee.

And what then? Why then the system would be merely extended, and we should have nationalism.

While, however, this eventual result would be present to the expectation of nationalists, we choose now chiefly to dwell upon the immediate practical solution of the unemployed problem afforded by the plan, a problem becoming terribly pressing and otherwise insoluble save by riot and revolution.

Can we not all, nationalists, people's party, labor organizations and all good men who have the abolition of poverty at heart, can we not get together and take the occasion of the present grievous industrial situation to bring before the people the merits of this safe cure and final solution of the problem of the unemployed, involving as it does in root the entire social problem?

One Party Masquerading as Two.

One of the most shameful chapters in American history has been the notorious, admitted and even defended abuse of the presidential patronage to procure the repeal of the silver purchase clause of the Sherman law. For the sake of common decency let us never hear Mr. Cleveland again even distantly alluded to in connection with civil service reform. There is not a decent paper in this country which would not echo this sentiment if the editorial writers dared be honest. But honesty spells starvation for a journalist on an old party paper.

The corresponding and equally shameful chapter to this record of the administration has been the selling out of recorded convictions and principles by Senators and Representatives in exchange for administrative patronage and possibly other considerations. Senator Voorhees is perhaps entitled to head this column of tergiversators, but it numbers at least a hundred names of men whose word ought never again to be counted worth anything. There is no standard base enough to estimate it in. The republican press never had such an opportunity to expose and scorch a democratic administration for political irresponsibility or prominent democrats for gross prostitution of their votes for control of patronage as the silver fight has given and still gives them. Why do they take such halfhearted advantage of it? Simply because the counting-room controls the editors, and Cleveland's policy is the policy of the counting-room, be it of a democratic or republican paper.

Therefore the republican editor with a sigh, lets go by a great partisan opportunity and pockets his salary by way of consolation.

This will be the course of things from now on more and more. The republican and democratic papers will whitewash one another's rascals so long as they are solid for the monopolies.

Dear brethren, cease to be deluded, the so-called republican and democratic parties are but one party.

The Movement for a Public Rapid Transit System in New York.

One of the signs of the times, all the more startling on account of its entire unexpectedness, is the strong movement in favor of public construction, ownership and operation of the proposed new rapid transit system of New York city. We recently noted the fact that the mayor and controller of the city had come out in favor of that plan, backed by the Recorder and News. The New York World has now lent its powerful aid to the same movement.

The interesting thing is, of course, that in no case are these advocates of city ownership moved by any prepossession in favor of nationalist ideas. They are simply forced to adopt the nationalist solution in spite of themselves, because it offers the only way out, the only escape from the intolerable thralldom of a brutal and thievish private corporation. It is by precisely the same argument that the whole country is being converted to nationalism, not "as a beautiful dream," though it is as beautiful as the face of God, but because it is the only way out from a worse than Egyptian bondage.

It is interesting to note the way the World puts the matter. It begins by saying that if the city builds and

runs the road there will of course be more or less political jobbery, but after all, it goes on to argue, it is impossible that any political boss can fleece the city so badly as the private corporation which now runs the system is doing and would be sure to do on a still larger scale if its domain were extended.

Stick a pin right here. The next time a man argues against public gas works, electric works, water works, a public transit, telegraph or railroad system on the ground that there would be political jobbery, save his time and yours by admitting (for the sake of the argument only) that there might be such jobbery, and then get back on him as the World does, by showing that the biggest fleecings of the public by politicians that were ever recorded are but a bagatelle compared with those perpetrated constantly by private corporations. This is an argument with teeth to it.

While your opponent is digesting the teeth, then will be the time to tell him that in proportion as a government undertakes functions vitally affecting and coming close home to the daily concerns of the people, will public opinion wake up and insist on good government. Tammany never yet was strong enough to dare mismanage the New York fire department. Neither will it ever be strong enough to mismanage, as the Goulds have done, the transit system.

The World goes on to speak of some of the positive points in favor of public construction, as for example, that the cheap rate at which the city can borrow money would mean cheaper as well as better construction and also that even if the city leased out the road for operation it could regulate the fares. Furthermore, it points out that the management of a publicly owned system would be responsible nominally and, at worst, to some extent really, to public opinion, whereas the present corporation management is absolutely indifferent to it. Our esteemed contemporary concludes that "A people's real rapid-transit system, built without too much stealing and operated under the direction of the people's representatives, responsible to the voters, would be a great boon to New York."

The people of the city of Boston this fall are to vote for or against a bill which gives a 50-year franchise to a private corporation to construct and operate a rapid transit system for this city and suburbs. Jump on that bill with both feet. If you do not you are no friend to Boston, or for that matter to yourself. Every man who votes for that bill is a traitor to his town and an unspeakable fool besides.

The formation of the Lake Superior iron mine trust last week is an important step in the march of capital, as it means that the Standard oil ring have secured the Mesaba and Gogebic iron mines, as well as similar mines in Cuba. John D. Rockefeller, Colgate Hoyt, Wetmore and others are in it. The capital is \$30,000,000 and the head office in New York city, with a branch office in Cleveland. The new deal involves fully nine-tenths of the product of the Bessemer iron mines of the country, besides those of cheap labor in Cuba.

Shreveport (La.) Caucasian: In his admirable article Mr. Bellamy suggests the plan of nationalism to bring about an invariable equilibrium of consumption and production by the principles of economic equality. If his plan is to stamp out of existence the schemers and sharks who control the products of labor and afflict the people, he is assured the cordial indorsement of every citizen of the United States not concerned or interested in the success of the schemers.

MASSACHUSETTS POPULISTS IN CONVENTION.

A ROUSING PLATFORM AND GOOD TICKET.

Cary for Governor. J. K. Harris of Haverhill for Lieutenant-Governor. Note and Comment.

It was a fine body of men that met in Laster's hall, Lynn, Mass., Wednesday, to nominate a state ticket upon a people's party platform. The utmost good nature prevailed, an admirable declaration of principles put forth and strong men chosen as standard bearers.

The convention was called together at 2.30 by Chairman Henry R. Legate of the central committee, who delivered a ringing speech upon the issues of the day. Mr. Legate was chosen permanent chairman and Lyman B. Taylor of Lynn permanent secretary. A committee on resolutions was chosen, consisting of Linn Boyd Porter of Cambridge, Mason A. Green of Boston, Hon. Henry Winn of Malden, Warner Johnson of Jamaica Plain, E. Gerry Brown of Brockton and James B. Woodfin of Marblehead. While this committee was in conference, the convention debated methods of procedure and subsequently listened to the reading of the platform by Mr. Porter, chairman of the committee on resolutions.

Mayor Winn, upon a call for nominations, rose amid enthusiastic cheers and in a well-worded speech put in nomination for governor, George H. Cary, who made the splendid fight in the 7th Congressional district against Barrett and Everett last autumn. Mr. Cary was nominated unanimously, and was roundly cheered when he accepted the position of standard bearer. Capt. Chas. E. Bowers of Arlington nominated Joseph K. Harris of Haverhill for lieutenant-governor and he was unanimously chosen. Mr. Harris was called for and he accepted in a brief speech. Isaac W. Skinner of Waltham was nominated for secretary of the commonwealth on motion of Henry Lemon of Boston; Thomas A. Watson of Braintree was nominated for treasurer, on motion of L. J. Bridgman of Melrose; Maurice W. Landers of Pittsfield was nominated for auditor, on motion of W. P. Conway of Lynn; Conrad Reno of Boston was nominated for attorney general, on motion of D. E. Hawes of Lynn.

The platform was then taken up and considered plank by plank. Several amendments were adopted. An amendment to the liquor plank proposed by George Kempton, was rejected almost unanimously.

Taken all in all, the convention was the most formidable to the old parties that we have had in Massachusetts. Blank nomination papers were distributed. It will take 1000 names of voters to secure the printing of the populist candidates on the official ballot.

We append the platform of the convention :

Platform of the Massachusetts People's Party, adopted at Lynn, Sept. 6, 1893.

We, citizens of Massachusetts, adherents of the People's Party, in convention assembled, again pledge our support to the principles of the platform adopted at Omaha on July 4, 1892. We congratulate the party on the magnificent vote polled in the last presidential election, when Gen. James B. Weaver, its candidate, received the suffrages of more than a million of his fellow citizens, and we have every reason to

believe that our cause will ultimately triumph at the ballot box.

We declare that the economic distress and oppressions which have culminated in the present business crisis are the result of the conquest of the business interests of the people and their means of livelihood by gigantic monopolies, financial and industrial, and we charge upon both the democratic and republican parties the responsibility for the present deplorable condition of the producing classes. We declare that the only way to deal with private monopolies is to monopolize them in the public interest through public control.

We emphasize the insufficiency of the circulating medium for the business needs of the country. We insist that the refusal of Congress, while repealing the purchasing clause of the Sherman act, to give to silver any money function, plainly proves that both the old parties are determined to force upon us a single gold standard. The world's exchanges increase several times as fast as the supply of gold available for coinage. Thus, on a gold basis, the purchasing power of the dollar is increased, the debtor robbed and the creditor enriched by a vicious and arbitrary change in the contract, time obligations made contingent upon the luck of the miner and the machinations of speculators, and periodical panics precipitated in a land of plenty. We believe that the time has come to take the nation's money completely out of the realm of private speculation and to look to Washington and not London for stable conditions of commerce. If silver is to be permanently deprived of its money function, gold also should be demonetized; and, therefore, we call for a system of legal tender treasury notes, issued only by the government, to be irredeemable except as they are receivable for government dues and regulated in volume as the market price of commodities may indicate, so that the supply of money shall keep pace with the legitimate demands of business and demoralizing fluctuations in the purchasing power of the dollar cease forever. In default of such an issue of legal tender notes, we favor free coinage of silver as affording with gold a more honest money than gold alone.

We demand a postal bank system for deposit and exchange, in which 30 day notices would not apply nor depositor's checks be refused payment until confidence is restored. And we condemn the perpetuation and extension to private corporations of the power of issuing money, which is the proper function of the government.

As protection against monopoly is the right of every citizen, we call for the assumption by the government as soon as practicable of the ownership of the railroads, which as now conducted are little short of chartered conspiracies against the peace and prosperity of the people; and we especially urge that steps be taken to acquire coal mines that are at present exploited by combinations of capitalists, and that a federal system of mining and coal distribution be immediately established.

We reiterate our demand that the government of the United States shall, at the earliest possible moment, begin to acquire the telegraph and telephone lines, or to build others, that we may have in connection with our post office system what is enjoyed by nearly every civilized nation.

We favor as the only cheap and absolutely safe system, state fire and life insurance at secure rates without profit.

We believe the solution of the liquor problem lies in the elimination of the element of profit, and therefore demand that the sale of liquor shall be exclusively carried on by the state at cost through salaried officials in such municipalities as shall apply for such agencies, and that the national government shall regulate the importation, manufacture and transportation of all intoxicants so as to protect the states in their exclusive management of the same.

We favor a graduated tax on inheritances and incomes.

We protest against the contract system practiced by municipalities in employing labor. Municipal employment should be direct and responsible. We demand that all pub-

lie employees, national, state and municipal, be brought under a classified civil service with admissions and promotions for merit only and dismissals for cause after hearing.

We condemn the present management of industry because it fails to provide work for multitudes of willing hands, while at the same time overworking those who are employed. We therefore favor the reduction of the time of labor to an eight hour day, which will tend both to lighten the burdens of the workers and to increase the number of those finding employment.

We call attention to the condition of the unemployed, which, under pressure of business depression, is assuming the proportions of a great national tragedy. We declare it to be the proper and pressing duty of the state and municipalities to come to their aid, not by charity, nor by untimely and wasteful public works, but by organizing their labor according to their several trades and abilities, so that they may be able, on a co-operative plan to supply one another's need. As the first practical step to this end we urge an immediate census and registration of the unemployed. We are in favor of adding to our bureau of labor statistics, employment agencies and bureaus of information, affiliated with similar institutions in other states and centralized in the department of labor at Washington. In the selection of officers and engagements of employees, women should be given full proportion of positions.

We demand that convicts be employed exclusively upon such articles as can be used in our penal and charitable institutions, any surplus thereof to be distributed so as not to compete with free labor.

We favor full political suffrage for women on an equal basis with men.

We demand such laws as shall compel the wealthy holders of personal property to pay their share of the taxes. We commend a doomage law with sufficient penalties to procure sworn lists of such property, and its taxation by a uniform rate in all municipalities, with the distribution of the proceeds to all the cities and towns on a fair basis.

We congratulate the people of Massachusetts upon the amendments to the municipal lighting law, secured in the Legislature at the last session in the interest of towns desiring to acquire private plants, and we condemn the republican majority for its defeat of the amendment fixing the rate of compensation at which such plants should be acquired at not more than the duplication cost of an equivalent plant without compensation for the franchise.

We favor the municipalization of local public utilities such as the furnishing of gas, electricity, water, street railway transportation, etc.

We favor election laws which shall place upon equality all political parties or organizations in the selection of candidates and the placing of their names on the official ballot.

We demand of municipalities, states and the nation, the immediate adoption of the initiative and referendum.

Another Governor Revolts.

The number of governors who are revolutionary in the eyes of eastern editors is on the increase. Gov. Tillman of South Carolina has joined the ranks of the new movement. The passage of the repeal bill settled the matter with the governor, who now proclaims himself in favor of an issue of United States treasury notes based upon the credit of the country. He said to an interviewer last Saturday that the gold men "object to greenbacks as fiat money; they object to silver as a dishonest dollar; they demand gold to become the standard of the country, although it means 50 cent wheat and six cent cotton, and the loss of the titles of their homes by millions of American farmers. I told the 'ring' in this state in 1888 it was damming up the water when the demand for reform was refused in the state convention. I now make the prediction that a similar crisis is

approaching in national affairs, and the flood-gates of the people's wrath will be raised and the present conspirators against the people's liberty will be swept from the face of the earth in the next presidential election." The demand for abandonment of all metallic basis of currency and the complete nationalization of money will grow from this on.

The Railroad Issue in Nebraska.

Nebraska has recently passed a maximum rate railroad law and the railroads propose to fight it. If that stalwart republican organ, the Omaha Bee, has the right of it, the railroad corporations have captured the republican convention that meets at Lincoln, October 5, to nominate a supreme court judge and two regents of the university. The Bee closes a hot editorial in this fashion: "The republican party, the men who believe in a free ballot and an honest count, and do not believe that railroadism is republicanism, will repudiate any convention dominated by fraud, corruption and jugglery. They need not abjure the principles of the party by so doing. They will simply refuse to rally under the railroad flag, even if the colors are the glorions stars and strips and the standard bearer masquerades as a veteran republican, when in fact he is a galvanized rail-roader." Here is the opportunity of the populists who do not have to desert their party in order to vote their principles. The Bee has been all along maintaining that the railroads will be beaten in their schemes of robbing the people. If the corporations are defeated, the weapons must come from outside the republican party. The people will have justice and the railroads before the fight is over.

Money will not do it.

The Coming Nation, Greensburg, Ind.: "Plenty of money will not solve the social question. It is down deeper than that. Plenty of money would delay the day of deliverance from poverty and crime. If the money gods had any sense they would grant these puny demands of the people and perpetuate their reign another thousand years. But they are blind as have ever been despotic rulers. The people will get no relief from this Congress, but the bankers and monopolists will get what they want. . . . There are those who learn only at experience's school, and her school houses will be very numerous in this monopoly-ridden country from now until the co-operative commonwealth is born."

Note and Comment.

Chairman Taubeneck believes that the silver and gold mines should be owned by the government.

The populists held a rousing meeting on the Common at Lynn, Mass., Labor Day. Henry R. Legate was the orator, and a thousand people were present.

E. C. Baldwin addressed a meeting of the Boston People's Party club at Marble hall, Tremont street, last Thursday night.

Our report of the proceedings of the nationalist committee of correspondence at Chicago arrived to late for this edition, but we shall give an account of the meeting next week.

There were over 500 delegates at the recent populist conference at Dallas, Tex. They are described as a fine lot of

men and the reports from all parts of the state show that the new party is making tremendous strides.

The Virginia republicans will not nominate this year. The fight in the Old Dominion is now between the populists and democrats. Corporation republicans will back up the democracy. Republican and democratic fusion in order to kill the young party is a sight for the gods.

The Boston Journal's attitude toward fusion, we take it, is the organic one. The Journal says: "There is a new kind of fusion taking place in Kansas. This time it is republicans and democrats who are combining against the populists on county tickets. It is well to sink other differences until the state is redeemed from the disgrace of populist rule."

L. S. Coffin of Fort Dodge, Ia., was nominated for governor by the people's party at the state convention in Des Moines on the 5th. A platform was adopted demanding free coinage of silver, denouncing President Cleveland, favoring public conduct of the liquor traffic and declaring for female suffrage. Fifteen hundred dollars were raised on the spot for carrying on a campaign.

Kansas Commoner, Wichita: When populists talk of the government ownership of the railways republicans here in Kansas say it is impracticable, as we would have to pay the roads \$50,000 to \$60,000 a mile. When the roads are assessed at one eighth to one tenth of the above valuation, those same papers howl with indignation, and talk about persecution and confiscation. To be a consistent republican is to be entirely inconsistent.

The Worcester Spy ought to be above the practice of circulating the anonymous lies about chaos brought upon Kansas by the populists, who are described as going to pieces. If this be so, why is it necessary for the republican and democratic parties to fuse in order to whip the populists? Kansas is in the new party to stay, and the Spy will soon find trouble at its own door. Massachusetts is not in the habit of submitting to oppression.

United States Senator Kyle, populist, has introduced a bill for the establishment of government savings banks in which any citizen can deposit any sum and receive therefor deposit certificates in sums of \$20 or \$100 each, drawing two per cent interest. The bill also provides for loans at four per cent to small land owners. The loans are to be limited to this class for a double purpose — to secure a wider distribution of money and furnish the most satisfactory security therefor known to the commercial world.

Haverhill Evening Gazette: It is not the part of wisdom to assume that, because of the trouble in the commercial and financial worlds, the republican party is to be the gainer. On the contrary, thousands of voters among the working classes are rapidly becoming convinced that neither of the old parties is to be trusted to legislate in the interest of the great mass of the people, but that the controlling forces of both are practically in the hands of a comparatively few men, who may differ upon non-essentials, but who work harmoniously together wherever their own interests, which generally lie in the direction of acquiring large fortunes, are concerned.

NATIONALISTIC DRIFT.

Items of Industrial, Political, Social and Commercial Intelligence indicating the approaching Breakup of the Present System and the Tendency through Business Combinations and Public Control of Industry toward Complete National Co-operation.

Massachusetts.

At a special town meeting last week North Andover accepted by a vote of 147 to 15, the Legislative act empowering the town to secure a water supply.

Rhode Island.

The following is being circulated in the state: "The undersigned approve of providing by law that the state of Rhode Island shall give opportunity for employment to any resident of the state, on application to a bureau to be established by law for that purpose, and of the payment, weekly, to each state employee, of the highest wages that the product of the employee's labor will admit." Blanks can be secured by addressing J. F. Smith, Oak Lawn, R.I.

New Hampshire.

The people of Exeter, who are bent upon establishing a system of public water-works, are having trouble in securing facts as to the business of the local company, which refuse to produce its books, and it has become necessary to canvass the town in order to learn the amount of the company's receipts. This delays matters and increases the desire of the people to municipalize the water service.

New York.

People's Advocate, Buffalo: We wonder if the people realize that under government ownership of the telegraph all this vast expense for public telegraph service that they now pay for by indirect taxes for the support of the government would be abolished; besides all the telegraph service required by private patrons would be obtained at less than half present price.

Michigan.

The city of Paw Paw has negotiated \$15,000 electric light bonds. The bonds bear six per cent interest, and one \$500 bond is due and payable each year. The old Phoenix mill water power has been purchased and work will be commenced at once. Within the next 60 days, it is expected, the city will be running its own electric light plant.

South Carolina.

The new law providing state conduct of the liquor traffic, seems to be working admirably. The editor of the Cotton Plant, the official organ of the South Carolina Farmers' alliance, writes to a contemporary: "I like your views on our dispensary law. In spite of the desperate fight against its enforcement it gives every promise of success and is gaining friends every day. It is nationalism pure and simple and is bound to succeed."

Miscellaneous.

John Madden of Cottonwood Falls, Kan., writes for the Topeka Advocate an admirable article on so-called paternalism in government. He concludes: "Under the paternalistic or nationalistic system of government the farmer, the laborer, the mechanic, the railroad man, the miner, the inventor, and, in fact, all classes who represent honest toil and legitimate effort, would receive protection and government would take on the greatness of its people."

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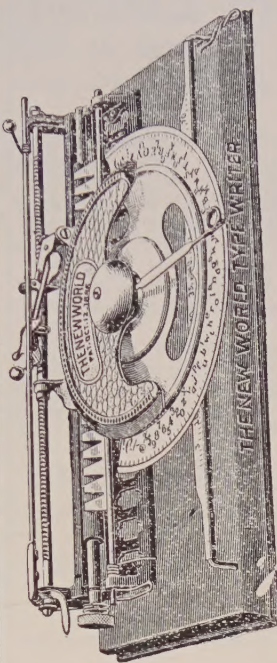
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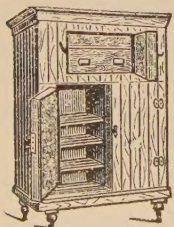
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